

In 2005, we had the first congressional hearing on the Boulder-White Clouds on what then was a bill called CIEDRA. CIEDRA was a complicated 60-page bill that tried to do a lot of things for a lot of different people.

Today, we have a simplified 20-page bill we call SNRA+ that brings management certainty—and that is an important aspect—to the Boulder-White Clouds. It does this by making the determination about which parts of the current wilderness study area will in fact become wilderness and which parts will be released for multiple use.

There will be three new wilderness areas totaling 275,665 acres: Hemmingway-Boulders Wilderness, with 67,998 acres; White Clouds Wilderness, with 90,769 acres; and in honor of the late Senator Jim McClure, we have the James A. McClure-Jerry Peak Wilderness, with 116,898 acres. The bill also releases wilderness study areas back to multiple use, totaling 153,883 acres.

So this not only makes the determination of what is going to be wilderness, it releases the other wilderness study areas for multiple use.

It is important to note in this bill that we do not close any motorized roads or trails in this bill. Ranchers with allotments on the SNRA would be allowed to voluntarily retire their grazing permits and be eligible for compensation from a third party. Any retired grazing permits would be permanently closed.

There is a provision that nothing in the bill affects the jurisdiction of the State of Idaho with respect to the management of fish and wildlife on public land in the State, including the regulation of hunting, fishing, and trapping within the wilderness areas.

Individual parcels of land will be conveyed to Custer and Blaine Counties and rural communities for public purposes, including workforce housing, cemeteries, water towers, and waste transfer sites.

As part of this process, grants have been provided to the SNRA for trail maintenance and improvements, including maintenance and improvements of existing motorized trails and two existing trails to provide primitive wheelchair access and for acquiring the land to build a mechanized bike/snowmobile access trail between Redfish Lake and Stanley.

Mr. Speaker, this bill meets the needs of today's users and resolves longstanding debates over the management of the Boulder-White Clouds. It will end the discussion of monuments and wilderness in the Boulder-White Clouds, and secures the future for generations of Idahoans who want to continue using and enjoying our beautiful Boulder-White Clouds.

Finally, I am proud of the wide array of support we now have for this bill. We have the support of the Idaho Recreation Council, whose members include ATVers, motorcyclists, motorized and nonmotorized boaters, rafters, backcountry pilots, RVers, rock

hounds, recreational miners, and snowmobilers in the Idaho State Snowmobile Association.

We also have the support of the Sawtooth Society, the Custer County Commissioners, East Fork Ranchers, the Idaho Farm Bureau, the Idaho Cattle Association, Idaho Outfitters and Guides, the Idaho Conservation League, and the Idaho Wilderness Society.

This is a broad array of users and conservation groups, and it demonstrates how far we have come with this bill and how widely it is supported.

This is an Idaho bill—crafted by Idahoans over the past 15 years—to address some of the most contentious land management issues in one of the most beautiful places on Earth so that we can both use and enjoy it and preserve it for future generations. It is, by any definition, a “compromise” by all stakeholders, and I urge my colleagues to pass this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have a list of people I want to thank who helped support this bill over the years and have worked very diligently on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the following people who have worked with me during most or part of the last 15 years. They each played a role in their own way.

From the Conservation Community I want to thank Rick Johnson, who has become a true friend and honest broker in this long journey. I also want to thank Tim Mahoney, Marcia Argust, Craig Gehrke, Brad Brooks, Mike Matz, John Gilroy, Linn Kincannon, Lynne Stone, Tom Pomeroy, Bart Koehler, Kai Anderson, Athan Manuel, Chris Wood, Erik Schultz, Dani Mazzotta, and Myke Bybee.

I want to thank the Custer County Commissioners Wayne Butts, Lin Hintze, Doyle Lamb and Cliff Hansen. They stood by us throughout and made sure their concerns were heard and taken care of.

I want to thank current and former Blaine County Commissioners including Sarah Michael and also Larry Schoen who signed a joint letter with Commissioner Butts of Custer County.

Additionally, I need to thank Stanley City Council President Steve Botti and Mayor Herb Mumford and former mayor Hannah Stauts.

I want to thank the East Fork Ranchers Wayne and Melody Baker, Gary and Jackie Ingram, Doug, Cheryl and Sarah Baker and Junior and Lura Baker. They stood by me through thick and thin. They were the reason we started this process, and we are going to make sure their livelihoods on the East Fork continue for future generations.

At the Sawtooth Society, I need to thank former executive director Bob Hayes, current executive director Gary O'Malley, Hans Carstensen and the current President Paul Hill.

From the Idaho Recreation Council who represent motorized users I want to thank Brett Madron, Steve Frisbie and Gary Cvecich. I want to also thank their leader Sandra Mitchell. She is an incredible woman who represents her members very, very well.

I want to thank Grant Simonds and Louise and Mike Stark who represent the outfitters and guides.

At the Forest Service, I need to thank Ed Cannady for answering the hundreds of ques-

tions we asked over the years on uses and map boundaries. He knows the area better than anyone and he cares even more about them. He also took me, my staff and even the Forest Service Chief into the White Clouds on various trips so I could get a better understanding of the area. Ed has become a very good friend throughout this process.

Additionally, at the Forest Service I want to thank Kit Mullen, Ruth Monahan, David Stockdale, Brenda Geesey, Bonnie Luckman, Barbara Garcia, Julie Thomas, Jennifer Blake, and Beckie Wagoner.

At the BLM, Laurie Sedlmayr and Lara Douglas were a great help throughout this process.

I want to thank Erica Rhoad who started working on this bill with Chairman Pombo and is finishing it with Chairman BISHOP. She is very good at her job.

I want to thank Gregory Kostka at Legislative Counsel. He drafted and redrafted countless versions of this bill over the years. He is a true professional.

I want to thank Laurel Sayer who was on my staff and is now working in the conservation community. She attended many meetings and did terrific ground work for me throughout the process.

I want to thank Senator RISCH who when I spoke to him last year about one last try before a monument proclamation he said “I think we can do this, MIKE.” The Senator and his staff John Sandy and Darren Parker have done a great job helping us get to the finish line.

Finally, I want to thank my staff, Lindsay Slater, Malisah Small, Nathan Greene, Sarah Cannon, James Neill, Emilee Henshaw, Solara Linehan, Billy Valderrama, John Revier and Nikki Wallace. They have each helped in many different ways.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, again, I want to thank my colleague, Mr. SIMPSON, for sponsoring this very important piece of legislation.

I ask my colleagues to help support H.R. 1138, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from American Samoa (Mrs. RADEWAGEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1138.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, AND UNREGULATED FISHING ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2015

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 774) to strengthen enforcement mechanisms to stop illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, to amend the Tuna Conventions Act of 1950 to implement the Antigua Convention, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 774

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

# **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015”.

## **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

### **TITLE I—STRENGTHENING FISHERIES ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS**

Sec. 101. Amendments to the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act.

Sec. 102. Amendments to the High Seas Driftnet Fisheries Enforcement Act.

Sec. 103. Amendments to North Pacific Anadromous Stocks Act of 1992.

Sec. 104. Amendments to the Pacific Salmon Treaty Act of 1985.

Sec. 105. Amendments to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Implementation Act.

Sec. 106. Amendments to the Antarctic Marine Living Resources Convention Act.

Sec. 107. Amendments to the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act.

Sec. 108. Amendments to the High Seas Fishing Compliance Act of 1965.

Sec. 109. Amendments to the Dolphin Protection Consumer Information Act.

Sec. 110. Amendments to the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982.

Sec. 111. Amendments to the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Convention Act of 1995.

Sec. 112. Amendment to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

### **TITLE II—IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANTIGUA CONVENTION**

Sec. 201. Short title.

Sec. 202. Amendment of the Tuna Conventions Act of 1950.

Sec. 203. Definitions.

Sec. 204. Commissioners; number, appointment, and qualifications.

Sec. 205. General Advisory Committee and Scientific Advisory Subcommittee.

Sec. 206. Rulemaking.

Sec. 207. Prohibited acts.

Sec. 208. Enforcement.

Sec. 209. Reduction of bycatch.

Sec. 210. Repeal of Eastern Pacific Tuna Licensing Act of 1984.

### **TITLE III—AGREEMENT ON PORT STATE MEASURES TO PREVENT, DETER AND ELIMINATE ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING**

Sec. 301. Short title.

Sec. 302. Purpose.

Sec. 303. Definitions.

Sec. 304. Duties and authorities of the Secretary.

Sec. 305. Authorization or denial of port entry.

Sec. 306. Inspections.

Sec. 307. Prohibited acts.

Sec. 308. Enforcement.

Sec. 309. International cooperation and assistance.

Sec. 310. Relationship to other laws.

### **TITLE I—STRENGTHENING FISHERIES ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS**

#### **SEC. 101. AMENDMENTS TO THE HIGH SEAS DRIFTNET FISHING MORATORIUM PROTECTION ACT.**

(a) ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 606 of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826g) is amended by inserting before the first sentence the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary and the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall enforce this Act, and the Acts to which this section applies, in accordance with this section. Each such Secretary may, by agreement, on a reimbursable basis or otherwise, utilize the personnel services, equipment (including aircraft and vessels), and facilities of any other Federal agency, and of any State agency, in the performance of such duties.

“(b) ACTS TO WHICH SECTION APPLIES.—This section applies to—

“(1) the Pacific Salmon Treaty Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3631 et seq.);

“(2) the Dolphin Protection Consumer Information Act (16 U.S.C. 1385);

“(3) the Tuna Conventions Act of 1950 (16 U.S.C. 951 et seq.);

“(4) the North Pacific Anadromous Stocks Act of 1992 (16 U.S.C. 5001 et seq.);

“(5) the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (16 U.S.C. 971 et seq.);

“(6) the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Convention Act of 1995 (16 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.);

“(7) the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Implementation Act (16 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.); and

“(8) the Antigua Convention Implementing Act of 2015.

“(c) ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall prevent any person from violating this Act, or any Act to which this section applies, in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though sections 308 through 311 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1858 through 1861) were incorporated into and made a part of and applicable to this Act and each such Act.

“(2) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.—The Secretary may, subject to appropriations and in the course of carrying out the Secretary’s responsibilities under the Acts to which this section applies, engage in international cooperation to help other nations combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing and achieve sustainable fisheries.

“(d) SPECIAL RULES.—

“(1) ADDITIONAL ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.—In addition to the powers of officers authorized pursuant to subsection (c), any officer who is authorized by the Secretary, or the head of any Federal or State agency that has entered into an agreement with the Secretary under subsection (a), may enforce the provisions of any Act to which this section applies, with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though section 311 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1861) were incorporated into and made a part of each such Act.

“(2) DISCLOSURE OF ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, subject to the data confidentiality provisions in section 402 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1881a), may disclose, as necessary and appropriate, information, including information collected under joint authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.) and the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (16 U.S.C. 971 et seq.) or the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Implementation Act (16 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.) or other statutes implementing international fishery agreements, to any other Federal or State government agency, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

the secretariat or equivalent of an international fishery management organization or arrangement made pursuant to an international fishery agreement, or a foreign government, if—

“(i) such government, organization, or arrangement has policies and procedures to protect such information from unintended or unauthorized disclosure; and

“(ii) such disclosure is necessary—

“(I) to ensure compliance with any law or regulation enforced or administered by the Secretary;

“(II) to administer or enforce any international fishery agreement to which the United States is a party;

“(III) to administer or enforce a binding conservation measure adopted by any international organization or arrangement to which the United States is a party;

“(IV) to assist in any investigative, judicial, or administrative enforcement proceeding in the United States; or

“(V) to assist in any law enforcement action undertaken by a law enforcement agency of a foreign government, or in relation to a legal proceeding undertaken by a foreign government to the extent the enforcement action is consistent with rules and regulations of a regional fisheries management organization (as that term is defined by the United Nation’s Food and Agriculture Organization Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing) of which the United States is a member, or the Secretary has determined that the enforcement action is consistent with the requirements under Federal law for enforcement actions with respect to illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing.

“(B) DATA CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS NOT APPLICABLE.—The data confidentiality provisions of section 402 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1881a) shall not apply with respect to this Act with respect to—

“(i) any obligation of the United States to share information under a regional fisheries management organization (as that term is defined by the United Nation’s Food and Agriculture Organization Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing) of which the United States is a member; or

“(ii) any information collected by the Secretary regarding foreign vessels.

“(e) PROHIBITED ACTS.—It is unlawful for any person—

“(1) to violate any provision of this Act or any regulation or permit issued pursuant to this Act;

“(2) to refuse to permit any officer authorized to enforce the provisions of this Act to board, search, or inspect a vessel, subject to such person’s control for the purposes of conducting any search, investigation, or inspection in connection with the enforcement of this Act, any regulation promulgated under this Act, or any Act to which this section applies;

“(3) to forcibly assault, resist, oppose, impede, intimidate, or interfere with any such authorized officer in the conduct of any search, investigation, or inspection described in paragraph (2);

“(4) to resist a lawful arrest for any act prohibited by this section or any Act to which this section applies;

“(5) to interfere with, delay, or prevent, by any means, the apprehension, arrest, or detection of an other person, knowing that such person has committed any act prohibited by this section or any Act to which this section applies; or

“(6) to forcibly assault, resist, oppose, impede, intimidate, sexually harass, bribe, or interfere with—

“(A) any observer on a vessel under this Act or any Act to which this section applies; or

“(B) any data collector employed by the National Marine Fisheries Service or under contract to any person to carry out responsibilities under this Act or any Act to which this section applies.

“(f) CIVIL PENALTY.—Any person who commits any act that is unlawful under subsection (e) shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty, and may be subject to a permit sanction, under section 308 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1858).

“(g) CRIMINAL PENALTY.—Any person who commits an act that is unlawful under subsection (e)(2), (e)(3), (e)(4), (e)(5), or (e)(6) is deemed to be guilty of an offense punishable under section 309(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1859(b)).

“(h) UTILIZATION OF FEDERAL AGENCY ASSETS.—”

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 308(a) of the Antarctic Marine Living Resources Convention Act of 1984 (16 U.S.C. 2437(a)) is amended to read as follows:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Any person who commits an act that is unlawful under section 306 shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty, and may be subject to a permit sanction, under section 308 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1858).”

(b) ACTIONS TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNATIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATIONS.—Section 608 of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1826i) is amended by—

(1) inserting before the first sentence the following: “(a) IN GENERAL.—”;

(2) in subsection (a) (as designated by paragraph (1) of this subsection) in the first sentence, inserting “, or arrangements made pursuant to an international fishery agreement,” after “organizations”; and

(3) adding at the end the following new subsections:

“(b) DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, subject to the data confidentiality provisions in section 402 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1881a) except as provided in paragraph (2), may disclose, as necessary and appropriate, information, including information collected under joint authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.) and the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 (16 U.S.C. 71 et seq.), the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Implementation Act (16 U.S.C. 6901 et seq.), any other statute implementing an international fishery agreement, to any other Federal or State government agency, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, or the secretariat or equivalent of an international fishery management organization or arrangement made pursuant to an international fishery agreement, if such government, organization, or arrangement, respectively, has policies and procedures to protect such information from unintended or unauthorized disclosure.

“(2) EXCEPTIONS.—The data confidentiality provisions in section 402 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1881a) shall not apply with respect to this Act—

“(A) for obligations of the United States to share information under a regional fisheries management organization (as that term is defined by the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization Agreement on Port

State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing) of which the United States is a member; or

“(B) to any information collected by the Secretary regarding foreign vessels.

“(c) IUU VESSEL LISTS.—The Secretary may—

“(1) develop, maintain, and make public a list of vessels and vessel owners engaged in illegal, unreported, or unregulated fishing or fishing-related activities in support of illegal, unreported, or unregulated fishing, including vessels or vessel owners identified by an international fishery management organization or arrangement made pursuant to an international fishery agreement, that—

“(A) the United States is party to; or

“(B) the United States is not party to, but whose procedures and criteria in developing and maintaining a list of such vessels and vessel owners are substantially similar to such procedures and criteria adopted pursuant to an international fishery agreement to which the United States is a party; and

“(2) take appropriate action against listed vessels and vessel owners, including action against fish, fish parts, or fish products from such vessels, in accordance with applicable United States law and consistent with applicable international law, including principles, rights, and obligations established in applicable international fishery management agreements and trade agreements.

“(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may promulgate regulations to implement this section.”

(c) NOTIFICATION REGARDING IDENTIFICATION OF NATIONS.—Section 609(b) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1826j(b)) is amended to read as follows:

“(b) NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall notify the President and that nation of such an identification.”

(d) NATIONS IDENTIFIED UNDER SECTION 610.—Section 610(b)(1) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1826k(b)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) notify, as soon as possible, the President and nations that have been identified under subsection (a), and also notify other nations whose vessels engage in fishing activities or practices described in subsection (a), about the provisions of this section and this Act;”

(e) EFFECT OF CERTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 609.—Section 609(d)(3)(A)(i) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1826j(d)(3)(A)(i)) is amended by striking “that has not been certified by the Secretary under this subsection, or”.

(f) EFFECT OF CERTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 610.—Section 610(c)(5) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1826k(c)(5)) is amended by striking “that has not been certified by the Secretary under this subsection, or”.

(g) IDENTIFICATION OF NATIONS.—

(1) SCOPE OF IDENTIFICATION FOR ACTIONS OF FISHING VESSELS.—Section 609(a) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1826j(a)) is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “, based on a cumulative compilation and analysis of data collected and provided by international fishery management organizations and other nations and organizations,” after “shall”; and

(ii) by striking “2 years” and inserting “3 years”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by inserting “that undermines the effectiveness of measures required by an international fishery management organization, taking into account whether” after “(1)”; and

(C) in paragraph (1), by striking “vessels of”.

(2) ADDITIONAL GROUNDS FOR IDENTIFICATION.—Section 609(a) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1826j(a)) is further amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) in order as subparagraphs (A) and (B) (and by moving the margins of such subparagraphs 2 ems to the right);

(B) by inserting before the first sentence the following:

“(1) IDENTIFICATION FOR ACTIONS OF FISHING VESSELS.—”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) IDENTIFICATION FOR ACTIONS OF NATION.—Taking into account the factors described under section 609(a)(1), the Secretary shall also identify, and list in such report, a nation—

“(A) if it is violating, or has violated at any point during the preceding three years, conservation and management measures required under an international fishery management agreement to which the United States is a party and the violations undermine the effectiveness of such measures; or

“(B) if it is failing, or has failed in the preceding 3-year period, to effectively address or regulate illegal, unreported, or unregulated fishing in areas described under paragraph (1)(B).

“(3) APPLICATION TO OTHER ENTITIES.—Where the provisions of this Act are applicable to nations, they shall also be applicable, as appropriate, to other entities that have competency to enter into international fishery management agreements.”

(3) PERIOD OF FISHING PRACTICES SUPPORTING IDENTIFICATION.—Section 610(a)(1) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1826k(a)(1)) is amended by striking “calendar year” and inserting “3 years”.

(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Commerce \$450,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020 to implement the amendments made by subsections (b) and (g).

(i) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—

(1) Section 607(2) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1826h(2)) is amended by striking “whose vessels” and inserting “that”.

(2) Section 609(d)(1) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1826j(d)(1)) is amended by striking “of its fishing vessels”.

(3) Section 609(d)(1)(A) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1826j(d)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “of its fishing vessels”.

(4) Section 609(d)(2) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1826j(d)(2)) is amended—

(A) by striking “for certification” and inserting “to authorize”; and

(B) by inserting “the importation” after “or other basis”;

(C) by striking “harvesting”; and

(D) by striking “not certified under paragraph (1)” and inserting “issued a negative certification under paragraph (1)”.

(5) Section 610 of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1826k) is amended as follows:

(A) In subsection (a)(1), by striking “practices;” and inserting “practices—”.

(B) In subsection (c)(4), by striking all preceding subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(4) ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURE.—The Secretary may establish a procedure to authorize, on a shipment-by-shipment, shipper-by-shipper, or other basis the importation of fish or fish products from a vessel of a nation issued a negative certification under paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines that such imports were harvested by practices that do not result in bycatch of a protected marine species, or were harvested by practices that—

“(A) are comparable to those of the United States, taking into account different conditions; and”.

**SEC. 102. AMENDMENTS TO THE HIGH SEAS DRIFTNET FISHERIES ENFORCEMENT ACT.**

(a) NEGATIVE CERTIFICATION EFFECTS.—Section 101 of the High Seas Driftnet Fisheries Enforcement Act (16 U.S.C. 1826a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “recognized principles of” after “in accordance with”;

(2) in subsection (a)(2)(A), by inserting “or, as appropriate, for fishing vessels of a nation that receives a negative certification under section 609(d) or section 610(c) of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826)” after “(1)”;

(3) in subsection (a)(2)(B), by inserting before the period the following: “, except for the purposes of inspecting such vessel, conducting an investigation, or taking other appropriate enforcement action”;

(4) in subsection (b)(1)(A)(i), by striking “or illegal, unreported, or unregulated fishing” after “driftnet fishing”;

(5) in subsection (b)(1)(B) and subsection (b)(2), by striking “or illegal, unreported, or unregulated fishing” after “driftnet fishing” each place it appears;

(6) in subsection (b)(3)(A)(i), by inserting “or a negative certification under section 609(d) or section 610(c) of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826j(d), 1826k(c))” after “(1)(A)”;

(7) in subsection (b)(4)(A), by inserting “or issues a negative certification under section 609(d) or section 610(c) of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826j(d), 1826k(c))” after “paragraph (1)”;

(8) in subsection (b)(4)(A)(i), by striking “or illegal, unreported, or unregulated fishing” after “driftnet fishing”; and

(9) in subsection (b)(4)(A)(i), by inserting “, or to address the offending activities for which a nation received a negative certification under section 609(d) or 610(c) of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826j(d), 1826k(c))” after “beyond the exclusive economic zone of any nation”.

(b) DURATION OF NEGATIVE CERTIFICATION EFFECTS.—Section 102 of such Act (16 U.S.C. 1826b) is amended by—

(1) striking “or illegal, unreported, or unregulated fishing”; and

(2) inserting “or effectively addressed the offending activities for which the nation received a negative certification under 609(d) or 610(c) of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826j(d), 1826k(c))” before the period at the end.

#### SEC. 103. AMENDMENTS TO NORTH PACIFIC ANADROMOUS STOCKS ACT OF 1992.

(a) UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES.—Section 810 of the North Pacific Anadromous Stocks Act of 1992 (16 U.S.C. 5009) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5), by inserting “, investigation,” after “search”; and

(2) in paragraph (6), by inserting “, investigation,” after “search”.

(b) ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS AND ENFORCEMENT.—Section 811 of the Northern Pacific Anadromous Stocks Act of 1992 (16 U.S.C. 5010) is amended to read as follows:

#### “SEC. 811. ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS AND ENFORCEMENT.

“For additional prohibitions relating to this Act and enforcement of this Act, see section 606 of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826g).”.

#### SEC. 104. AMENDMENTS TO THE PACIFIC SALMON TREATY ACT OF 1985.

Section 8 of the Pacific Salmon Treaty Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3637) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2)—

(A) by inserting “, investigation,” after “search”; and

(B) by striking “this title,” and inserting “this Act”;

(2) in subsection (a)(3)—

(A) by inserting “, investigation,” after “search”; and

(B) by striking “subparagraph (2);” and inserting “paragraph (2);”;

(3) in subsection (a)(5), by striking “this title; or” and inserting “this Act;”; and

(4) by striking subsections (b) through (f) and inserting the following:

“(b) ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS AND ENFORCEMENT.—For additional prohibitions relating to this Act and enforcement of this Act, see section 606 of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826g).”.

#### SEC. 105. AMENDMENTS TO THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC FISHERIES CONVENTION IMPLEMENTATION ACT.

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Implementation Act (title V of Public Law 109-479) is amended—

(1) by amending section 506(c) (16 U.S.C. 6905(c)) to read as follows:

“(c) ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS AND ENFORCEMENT.—For additional prohibitions relating to this Act and enforcement of this Act, see section 606 of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826g).”; and

(2) in section 507(a)(2) (16 U.S.C. 6906(a)(2)) by striking “suspension, on” and inserting “suspension, of”.

#### SEC. 106. AMENDMENTS TO THE ANTARCTIC MARINE LIVING RESOURCES CONVENTION ACT.

The Antarctic Marine Living Resources Convention Act of 1984 is amended—

(1) in section 306 (16 U.S.C. 2435)—

(A) in paragraph (3), by striking “which he knows, or reasonably should have known, was”;;

(B) in paragraph (4), by inserting “, investigation,” after “search”; and

(C) in paragraph (5), by inserting “, investigation,” after “search”; and

(2) in section 307 (16 U.S.C. 2436)—

(A) by inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” before the first sentence; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT CONSERVATION MEASURES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsections (b), (c), and (d) of section 553 of title 5, United States Code, the Secretary of Commerce may publish in the Federal Register a final regulation to implement any conservation measure for which the Secretary of State notifies the Commission under section 305(a)(1)—

“(A) that has been in effect for 12 months or less;

“(B) that is adopted by the Commission; and

“(C) with respect to which the Secretary of State does not notify Commission in accordance with section 305(a)(1) within the time period allotted for objections under Article IX of the Convention.

“(2) ENTERING INTO FORCE.—Upon publication of such regulation in the Federal Register, such conservation measure shall enter into force with respect to the United States.”.

#### SEC. 107. AMENDMENTS TO THE ATLANTIC TUNAS CONVENTION ACT.

The Atlantic Tunas Convention Act of 1975 is amended—

(1) in section 6(c)(2) (16 U.S.C. 971d(c)(2)(2))—

(A) by striking “(A)” and inserting “(i)”;

(B) by striking “(B)” and inserting “(ii)”;

(C) by inserting “(A)” after “(2)”;

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) Notwithstanding the requirements of subparagraph (A) and subsections (b) and (c) of section 553 of title 5, United States Code, the Secretary may issue final regulations to implement Commission recommendations referred to in paragraph (1) concerning trade restrictive measures against nations or fishing entities.”;

(2) in section 7 (16 U.S.C. 971e) by striking subsections (e) and (f) and redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (e);

(3) in section 8 (16 U.S.C. 971f)—

(A) by striking subsections (a) and (c); and

(B) by inserting before subsection (b) the following:

“(a) For additional prohibitions relating to this Act and enforcement of this Act, see section 606 of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826g).”;;

(4) in section 8(b) by striking “the enforcement activities specified in section 8(a) of this Act” each place it appears and inserting “enforcement activities with respect to this Act that are otherwise authorized by law”; and

(5) by striking section 11 (16 U.S.C. 971j) and redesignating sections 12 and 13 as sections 11 and 12, respectively.

#### SEC. 108. AMENDMENTS TO THE HIGH SEAS FISHING COMPLIANCE ACT OF 1995.

Section 104(f) of the High Seas Fishing Compliance Act of 1995 (16 U.S.C. 5503(f)) is amended to read as follows:

“(f) VALIDITY.—A permit issued under this section for a vessel is void if—

“(1) any other permit or authorization required for the vessel to fish is expired, revoked, or suspended; or

“(2) the vessel is no longer documented under the laws of the United States or eligible for such documentation.”.

#### SEC. 109. AMENDMENTS TO THE DOLPHIN PROTECTION CONSUMER INFORMATION ACT.

The Dolphin Protection Consumer Information Act (16 U.S.C. 1385) is amended by amending subsection (e) to read as follows:

“(e) ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS AND ENFORCEMENT.—For additional prohibitions relating to this Act and enforcement of this Act, see section 606 of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826g).”.

#### SEC. 110. AMENDMENTS TO THE NORTHERN PACIFIC HALIBUT ACT OF 1982.

Section 7 of the Northern Pacific Halibut Act of 1982 (16 U.S.C. 773e) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (6) as subparagraphs (A) through (F);

(2) by redesignating subsections (a) and (b) as paragraphs (1) and (2), respectively;

(3) in paragraph (1)(B), as so redesignated, by inserting “, investigation,” before “or inspection”;

(4) in paragraph (1)(C), as so redesignated, by inserting “, investigation,” before “or inspection”;

(5) in paragraph (1)(E), as so redesignated, by striking “or” after the semicolon; and

(6) in paragraph (1)(F), as so redesignated, by striking “section.” and inserting “section; or”.

#### SEC. 111. AMENDMENTS TO THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES CONVENTION ACT OF 1995.

Section 207 of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Convention Act of 1995 (16 U.S.C. 5606) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “AND PENALTIES” and inserting “AND ENFORCEMENT”;

(2) in subsection (a)(2), by inserting “, investigation,” before “or inspection”;

(3) in subsection (a)(3), by inserting “, investigation,” before “or inspection”; and

(4) by striking subsections (b) through (f) and inserting the following:

“(b) ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS AND ENFORCEMENT.—For additional prohibitions relating to this Act and enforcement of this Act, see section 606 of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826g).”.

**SEC. 112. AMENDMENT TO THE MAGNUSON-STEVENS FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT.**

Section 307(1)(Q) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1857(1)(Q)) is amended by inserting before the semicolon the following: “or any treaty or in contravention of any binding conservation measure adopted by an international agreement or organization to which the United States is a party”.

**TITLE II—IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANTIGUA CONVENTION**

**SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.**

This title may be cited as the “Antigua Convention Implementing Act of 2015”.

**SEC. 202. AMENDMENT OF THE TUNA CONVENTIONS ACT OF 1950.**

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this title an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Tuna Conventions Act of 1950 (16 U.S.C. 951 et seq.).

**SEC. 203. DEFINITIONS.**

Section 2 (16 U.S.C. 951) is amended to read as follows:

**“SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

“In this Act:

“(1) **ANTIGUA CONVENTION.**—The term ‘Antigua Convention’ means the Convention for the Strengthening of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Established by the 1949 Convention Between the United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica, signed at Washington, November 14, 2003.

“(2) **COMMISSION.**—The term ‘Commission’ means the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission provided for by the Convention.

“(3) **CONVENTION.**—The term ‘Convention’ means—

“(A) the Convention for the Establishment of an Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, signed at Washington, May 31, 1949, by the United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica;

“(B) the Antigua Convention, upon its entry into force for the United States, and any amendments thereto that are in force for the United States; or

“(C) both such Conventions, as the context requires.

“(4) **PERSON.**—The term ‘person’ means an individual, partnership, corporation, or association subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

“(5) **UNITED STATES.**—The term ‘United States’ includes all areas under the sovereignty of the United States.

“(6) **UNITED STATES COMMISSIONERS.**—The term ‘United States commissioners’ means the individuals appointed in accordance with section 3(a).”.

**SEC. 204. COMMISSIONERS; NUMBER, APPOINTMENT, AND QUALIFICATIONS.**

Section 3 (16 U.S.C. 952) is amended to read as follows:

**“SEC. 3. COMMISSIONERS.**

“(a) **COMMISSIONERS.**—The United States shall be represented on the Commission by 4 United States Commissioners. The President shall appoint individuals to serve on the Commission. The United States Commissioners shall be subject to supervision and removal by the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary. In making the appointments, the President shall select United States Commissioners from among individuals who are knowledgeable or experienced concerning highly migratory fish stocks in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean, one of whom shall be an officer or employee of the Department of Commerce. Not more

than 2 United States Commissioners may be appointed who reside in a State other than a State whose vessels maintain a substantial fishery in the area of the Convention.

“(b) **ALTERNATE COMMISSIONERS.**—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary, may designate from time to time and for periods of time deemed appropriate Alternate United States Commissioners to the Commission. Any Alternate United States Commissioner may exercise, at any meeting of the Commission or of the General Advisory Committee or Scientific Advisory Subcommittee established pursuant to section 4(b), all powers and duties of a United States Commissioner in the absence of any United States Commissioner appointed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section for whatever reason. The number of such Alternate United States Commissioners that may be designated for any such meeting shall be limited to the number of United States Commissioners appointed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section who will not be present at such meeting.

“(c) **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS.**—

“(1) **EMPLOYMENT STATUS.**—Individuals serving as United States Commissioners, other than officers or employees of the United States Government, shall not be considered Federal employees except for the purposes of injury compensation or tort claims liability as provided in chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, and chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code.

“(2) **COMPENSATION.**—The United States Commissioners or Alternate Commissioners, although officers of the United States while so serving, shall receive no compensation for their services as United States Commissioners or Alternate Commissioners.

“(3) **TRAVEL EXPENSES.**—

“(A) The Secretary of State shall pay the necessary travel expenses of United States Commissioners and Alternate United States Commissioners to meetings of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission and other meetings the Secretary of State deems necessary to fulfill their duties, in accordance with the Federal Travel Regulations and sections 5701, 5702, 5704 through 5708, and 5731 of title 5, United States Code.

“(B) The Secretary may reimburse the Secretary of State for amounts expended by the Secretary of State under this subsection.”.

**SEC. 205. GENERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE.**

Section 4 (16 U.S.C. 953) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

“(a) **GENERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**—

“(1) **APPOINTMENTS; PUBLIC PARTICIPATION; COMPENSATION.**—

“(A) The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall appoint a General Advisory Committee which shall consist of not more than 25 individuals who shall be representative of the various groups concerned with the fisheries covered by the Convention, including nongovernmental conservation organizations, providing to the maximum extent practicable an equitable balance among such groups. Members of the General Advisory Committee will be eligible to participate as members of the United States delegation to the Commission and its working groups to the extent the Commission rules and space for delegations allow.

“(B) The chair of the Pacific Fishery Management Council’s Advisory Subpanel for Highly Migratory Fisheries and the chair of the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council’s Advisory Committee shall be ex-officio members of the General Advisory Committee by virtue of their positions in those Councils.

“(C) Each member of the General Advisory Committee appointed under subparagraph

(A) shall serve for a term of 3 years and is eligible for reappointment.

“(D) The General Advisory Committee shall be invited to attend all non-executive meetings of the United States delegation and at such meetings shall be given opportunity to examine and to be heard on all proposed programs of investigation, reports, recommendations, and regulations of the Commission.

“(E) The General Advisory Committee shall determine its organization, and prescribe its practices and procedures for carrying out its functions under this title, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), and the Convention. The General Advisory Committee shall publish and make available to the public a statement of its organization, practices and procedures. Meetings of the General Advisory Committee, except when in executive session, shall be open to the public, and prior notice of meetings shall be made public in timely fashion. The General Advisory Committee shall not be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

“(2) **INFORMATION SHARING.**—The Secretary and the Secretary of State shall furnish the General Advisory Committee with relevant information concerning fisheries and international fishery agreements.

“(3) **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS.**—

“(A) The Secretary shall provide to the General Advisory Committee in a timely manner such administrative and technical support services as are necessary for its effective functioning.

“(B) Individuals appointed to serve as a member of the General Advisory Committee—

“(i) shall serve without pay, but while away from their homes or regular places of business to attend meetings of the General Advisory Committee shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in the Government service are allowed expenses under section 5703 of title 5, United States Code; and

“(ii) shall not be considered Federal employees except for the purposes of injury compensation or tort claims liability as provided in chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, and chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code.”;

(2) by striking so much of subsection (b) as precedes paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(b) **SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE.**—

(1) The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall appoint a Scientific Advisory Subcommittee of not less than 5 nor more than 15 qualified scientists with balanced representation from the public and private sectors, including nongovernmental conservation organizations.”; and

(3) in subsection (b)(3), by striking “General Advisory Subcommittee” and inserting “General Advisory Committee”.

**SEC. 206. RULEMAKING.**

Section 6 (16 U.S.C. 955) is amended to read as follows:

**“SEC. 6. RULEMAKING.**

“(a) **REGULATIONS.**—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State and, with respect to enforcement measures, the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating, may promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the United States international obligations under the Convention and this Act, including recommendations and decisions adopted by the Commission. In cases where the Secretary has discretion in the implementation of one or more measures

adopted by the Commission that would govern fisheries under the authority of a Regional Fishery Management Council, the Secretary may, to the extent practicable within the implementation schedule of the Convention and any recommendations and decisions adopted by the Commission, promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the United States international obligations under the Convention and this Act, in accordance with the procedures established by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.).

“(b) JURISDICTION.—The Secretary may promulgate regulations as may be necessary to carry out the United States international obligations under the Convention and this Act, applicable to all vessels and persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, including vessels documented under chapter 121 of title 46, United States Code, wherever they may be operating, on such date as the Secretary shall prescribe.”.

#### SEC. 207. PROHIBITED ACTS.

Section 8 (16 U.S.C. 957) is amended—

(1) by striking “section 6(c) of this Act” each place it appears and inserting “section 6”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(i) ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS AND ENFORCEMENT.—For prohibitions relating to this Act and enforcement of this Act, see section 606 of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826g).”.

#### SEC. 208. ENFORCEMENT.

Section 10 (16 U.S.C. 959) is amended to read as follows:

##### “SEC. 10. ENFORCEMENT.

“For enforcement of this Act, see section 606 of the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1826g).”.

#### SEC. 209. REDUCTION OF BYCATCH.

Section 15 (16 U.S.C. 962) is amended by striking “vessel” and inserting “vessels”.

#### SEC. 210. REPEAL OF EASTERN PACIFIC TUNA LICENSING ACT OF 1984.

The Eastern Pacific Tuna Licensing Act of 1984 (16 U.S.C. 972 et seq.) is repealed.

### TITLE III—AGREEMENT ON PORT STATE MEASURES TO PREVENT, DETER AND ELIMINATE ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED FISHING

#### SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Port State Measures Agreement Act of 2015”.

#### SEC. 302. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this title is to implement the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing.

#### SEC. 303. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this title:

(1) The term “Agreement” means the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, done at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in Rome, Italy, November 22, 2009, and signed by the United States November 22, 2009.

(2) The term “IUU fishing” means any activity set out in paragraph 3 of the 2001 FAO International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing.

(3) The term “listed IUU vessel” means a vessel that is included in a list of vessels having engaged in IUU fishing or fishing-related activities in support of IUU fishing that has been adopted by a regional fisheries management organization of which the United States is a member, or a list adopted by a regional fisheries management organi-

zation of which the United States is not a member if the Secretary determines the criteria used by that organization to create the IUU list is comparable to criteria adopted by RFMOs of which the United States is a member for identifying IUU vessels and activities.

(4) The term “Magnuson-Stevens Act” means the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.).

(5) The term “person” has the same meaning as that term has in section 3 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1802).

(6) The terms “RFMO” and “regional fisheries management organization” mean a regional fisheries management organization (as that term is defined by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing) that is recognized by the United States.

(7) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Commerce or his or her designee.

(8) The term “vessel” means any vessel, ship of another type, or boat used for, equipped to be used for, or intended to be used for, fishing or fishing-related activities, including container vessels that are carrying fish that have not been previously landed.

(9) The term “fish” means finfish, mollusks, crustaceans, and all other forms of marine animal and plant life other than marine mammals and birds.

(10) The term “fishing”—

(A) except as provided in subparagraph (B), means—

(i) the catching, taking, or harvesting of fish;

(ii) the attempted catching, taking, or harvesting of fish;

(iii) any other activity which can reasonably be expected to result in the catching, taking, or harvesting of fish; or

(iv) any operations at sea in support of, or in preparation for, any activity described in clauses (i) through (iii); and

(B) does not include any scientific research activity that is conducted by a scientific research vessel.

#### SEC. 304. DUTIES AND AUTHORITIES OF THE SECRETARY.

(a) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may, as needed, promulgate such regulations—

(1) in accordance with section 553 of title 5, United States Code;

(2) consistent with provisions of the title; and

(3) with respect to enforcement measures, in consultation with the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating;

as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this title, to the extent that such regulations are not already promulgated.

(b) PORTS OF ENTRY.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, may designate and publicize the ports to which vessels may seek entry. No port may be designated under this section that has not also been designated as a port of entry for customs reporting purposes pursuant to section 1433 of title 19, United States Code, or that is not specified under an existing international fisheries agreement.

(c) NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall provide notification of the denial of port entry or the use of port services for a vessel under section 305, the withdrawal of the denial of port services for a foreign vessel, the taking of enforcement action pursuant to section 306 with respect to a foreign vessel, or the results of any inspection of a foreign vessel conducted pursuant to this title to the flag nation of the vessel and, as appropriate, to

the nation of which the vessel's master is a national, relevant coastal nations, RFMOs, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and other relevant international organizations.

(d) CONFIRMATION THAT FISH WERE TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES.—The Secretary may request confirmation from the flag state of a foreign vessel that the fish on board a foreign vessel in a port subject to the jurisdiction of the United States were taken in accordance with applicable RFMO conservation and management measures.

#### SEC. 305. AUTHORIZATION OR DENIAL OF PORT ENTRY.

(a) SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER AGREEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A vessel described in paragraph (2) seeking entry to a port that is subject to the jurisdiction of the United States must submit to the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating information as required under the Agreement in advance of its arrival in port. The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall provide that information to the Secretary.

(2) COVERED VESSELS.—A vessel referred to in paragraph (1) is any vessel that—

(A) is not documented under chapter 121 of title 46, United States Code; and

(B) is not numbered under chapter 123 of that title.

(b) DECISION TO AUTHORIZE OR DENY PORT ENTRY.—

(1) DECISION.—The Secretary shall decide, based on the information submitted under subsection (a), whether to authorize or deny port entry by the vessel, and shall communicate such decision to—

(A) the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating; and

(B) the vessel or its representative.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OR DENIAL OF ENTRY.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall authorize or deny entry to vessels to which such a decision applies.

(3) VESSELS TO WHICH ENTRY MAY BE DENIED.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may deny entry to any vessel to which such a decision applies—

(A) that is described in subsection (a)(2); and

(B) that—

(i) is a listed IUU vessel; or

(ii) the Secretary of Commerce has reasonable grounds to believe—

(I) has engaged in IUU fishing or fishing-related activities in support of such fishing; or

(II) has violated this title.

(c) DENIAL OF USE OF PORT.—If a vessel described in subsection (a)(2) is in a port that is subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, at the request of the Secretary, shall deny such vessel the use of the port for landing, transshipment, packaging and processing of fish, refueling, resupplying, maintenance, and drydocking, if—

(1) the vessel entered without authorization under subsection (b);

(2) the vessel is a listed IUU vessel;

(3) the vessel is not documented under the laws of another nation;

(4) the flag nation of the vessel has failed to provide confirmation requested by the Secretary that the fish on board were taken in accordance with applicable RFMO conservation and management measures; or

(5) the Secretary has reasonable grounds to believe—

(A) the vessel lacks valid authorizations to engage in fishing or fishing-related activities

as required by its flag nation or the relevant coastal nation;

(B) the fish on board were taken in violation of foreign law or in contravention of any RFMO conservation and management measure; or

(C) the vessel has engaged in IUU fishing or fishing-related activities in support of such fishing, including in support of a listed IUU vessel, unless it can establish that—

(i) it was acting in a manner consistent with applicable RFMO conservation and management measures; or

(ii) in the case of the provision of personnel, fuel, gear, and other supplies at sea, the vessel provisioned was not, at the time of provisioning, a listed IUU vessel.

(d) EXCEPTIONS.—Notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c), the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may allow port entry or the use of port services—

(1) if they are essential to the safety or health of the crew or safety of the vessel;

(2) to allow, where appropriate, for the scrapping of the vessel; or

(3) pursuant to an inspection or other enforcement action.

#### SEC. 306. INSPECTIONS.

The Secretary, and the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, shall conduct foreign vessel inspections in ports subject to the jurisdiction of the United States as necessary to achieve the purposes of the Agreement and this title. If, following an inspection, the Secretary has reasonable grounds to believe that a foreign vessel has engaged in IUU fishing or fishing-related activities in support of such fishing, the Secretary may take enforcement action under this title or other applicable law, and shall deny the vessel the use of port services, in accordance with section 305.

#### SEC. 307. PROHIBITED ACTS.

It is unlawful for any person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States—

(1) to violate any provision of this title or the regulations issued under this title;

(2) to refuse to permit any authorized officer to board, search, or inspect a vessel that is subject to the person's control in connection with the enforcement of this title or the regulations issued under this title;

(3) to submit false information pursuant to any requirement under this title or the regulations issued under this title; or

(4) to commit any offense enumerated in paragraph (4), (5), (7), or (9) of section 707(a) of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Implementation Act (16 U.S.C. 6906(a)).

#### SEC. 308. ENFORCEMENT.

(a) EXISTING AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—

(1) AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The authorities and responsibilities under subsections (a), (b), and (c) of section 311 and subsection (f) of section 308 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1861, 1858) and paragraphs (2), (3), and (7) of section 310(b) of the Antarctic Marine Living Resources Convention Act of 1984 (16 U.S.C. 2439(b)) shall apply with respect to enforcement of this title.

(2) INCLUDED VESSELS.—For purposes of enforcing this title, any reference in such paragraphs and subsections to a “vessel” or “fishing vessel” includes all vessels as defined in section 303(8) of this title.

(3) APPLICATION OF OTHER PROVISIONS.—Such paragraphs and subsections apply to violations of this title and any regulations promulgated under this title.

(b) CIVIL ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) CIVIL ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Any person who is found by the Secretary (after notice and opportunity for a hearing in accordance with sec-

tion 554 of title 5, United States Code) to have committed an act prohibited under section 307 shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty. The amount of the civil penalty shall be consistent with the amount under section 308(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1858(a)).

(B) COMPROMISE OR OTHER ACTION BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall have the same authority as provided in section 308(e) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1858(e)) with respect to a violation of this Act.

(2) IN REM JURISDICTION.—For purposes of this title, the conditions for in rem liability shall be consistent with section 308(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1858(d)).

(3) ACTION UPON FAILURE TO PAY ASSESSMENT.—If any person fails to pay an assessment of a civil penalty under this title after it has become a final and unappealable order, or after the appropriate court has entered final judgment in favor of the Secretary, the Secretary shall refer the matter to the Attorney General, who shall recover the amount assessed in any appropriate district court of the United States. In such action, the validity and appropriateness of the final order imposing the civil penalty shall not be subject to review.

(c) FORFEITURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any foreign vessel (including its fishing gear, furniture, appurtenances, stores, and cargo) used, and any fish (or the fair market value thereof) imported or possessed in connection with or as result of the commission of any act prohibited by section 307 of this title shall be subject to forfeiture under section 310 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1860).

(2) APPLICATION OF THE CUSTOMS LAWS.—All provisions of law relating to seizure, summary judgment, and judicial forfeiture and condemnation for violation of the customs laws, the disposition of the property forfeited or condemned or the proceeds from the sale thereof, the remission or mitigation of such forfeitures, and the compromise of claims shall apply to seizures and forfeitures incurred, or alleged to have been incurred, under the provisions of this title, insofar as applicable and not inconsistent with the provisions hereof. For seizures and forfeitures of property under this section by the Secretary, such duties as are imposed upon the customs officer or any other person with respect to the seizure and forfeiture of property under the customs law may be performed by such officers as are designated by the Secretary or, upon request of the Secretary, by any other agency that has authority to manage and dispose of seized property.

(3) PRESUMPTION.—For the purposes of this section there is a rebuttable presumption that all fish, or components thereof, found on board a vessel that is used or seized in connection with a violation of this title (including any regulation promulgated under this Act) were taken, obtained, or retained as a result of IUU fishing or fishing-related activities in support of IUU fishing.

(d) CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT.—Any person (other than a foreign government agency, or entity wholly owned by a foreign government) who knowingly commits an act prohibited by section 307 of this title shall be subject to subsections (b) and (c) of section 309 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (16 U.S.C. 1859).

(e) PAYMENT OF STORAGE, CARE, AND OTHER COSTS.—Any person assessed a civil penalty for, or convicted of, any violation of this title (including any regulation promulgated under this title) and any claimant in a forfeiture action brought for such a violation, shall be liable for the reasonable costs incurred by the Secretary in storage, care, and maintenance of any property seized in connection with the violation.

#### SEC. 309. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE.

(a) ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.—Consistent with existing authority and the availability of funds, the Secretary shall provide appropriate assistance to developing nations and international organizations of which such nations are members to assist those nations in meeting their obligations under the Agreement.

(b) PERSONNEL, SERVICES, EQUIPMENT, AND FACILITIES.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary may, by agreement, on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis, utilize the personnel, services, equipment, and facilities of any Federal, State, local, or foreign government or any entity of any such government.

#### SEC. 310. RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this title shall be construed to displace any requirements imposed by the customs laws of the United States or any other laws or regulations enforced or administered by the Secretary of Homeland Security. Where more stringent requirements regarding port entry or access to port services exist under other Federal law, those more stringent requirements shall apply. Nothing in this title shall affect a vessel's entry into port, in accordance with international law, for reasons of force majeure or distress.

(b) UNITED STATES OBLIGATIONS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW.—This title shall be interpreted and applied in accordance with United States obligations under international law.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from American Samoa (Mrs. RADEWAGEN) and the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from American Samoa.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from American Samoa?

There was no objection.

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As the Congresswoman from American Samoa, I can confidently say that fishing and the jobs it provides are one of the biggest issues of our territory. It is a way of life. It has shaped our culture, our customs, and our traditions, and that must continue. It is for that reason that I am a cosponsor of H.R. 774, the Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015.

Sometimes referred to as “pirate fishing,” illegal, unreported, and unregulated—or IUU—fishing is a wide range of fishing activities that fail to comply with national, regional, or global fisheries, conservation, and management requirements. These unlawful practices impact various sectors of our seafood industry, which is certainly true in respect to our tuna industry in American Samoa.

By nature, the impact of IUU fishing is difficult to quantify, though some estimates suggest that it results in economic losses between \$10 billion to \$23 billion worldwide annually. The effects of IUU fishing aren't only felt on the decks of our fishing boats, the impacts that we are talking about here can be felt all the way to your dinner plate.

The intent of H.R. 774 is to ensure that the fishermen that I represent can operate on a level playing field with foreign nation vessels. Specifically, the bill aims to identify and regulate illegal foreign fishing vessels that are hurting our fishermen's ability to provide for their families.

I do have to say that, while I am a cosponsor of this legislation, I wish that we would have been able to come to an agreement on language that I had proposed specific to the actions and regulations administered by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, of which American Samoa is a participating territory.

The intent of my language was to ensure that the Commission could not act in a manner that would hurt our fishermen more than those of other participating foreign nations. All I want is for our fishermen in American Samoa to be on a level playing field with foreign nation vessels to be able to provide for their families.

While we were not able to reach consensus on my proposed language, I look forward to working with my fellow committee colleagues toward a solution to help the fishing industry in American Samoa.

Remaining fair and true to our fishermen is so important in the territory that I represent because the fishing industry is the economic driver of many of our communities. While I will continue to work on those ideas legislatively in another vehicle, this is a good bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today, I rise to urge my colleagues to support passage of H.R. 774, a bill that I sponsored. It is the Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015.

H.R. 774 would strengthen enforcement mechanisms to combat IUU fishing, which threatens the economic and social infrastructure of our fishing communities and industry. IUU fishing also threatens the security of the United States and our allies. Countries like Australia, Papua New Guinea, and Palau have led the way in combating IUU fishing. I appreciate that the House is finally taking action that will help to demonstrate U.S. leadership on this important issue.

IUU fishing costs our fishing industry over tens of billions of dollars over the years. This tremendous impact on fishing economies undermines their financial security and can destabilize regions. Additionally, in some cases, we

have seen IUU fishing facilitates illegal human and wildlife trafficking. IUU is bad for our national security, and we must give U.S. authorities the tools to combat this illegal activity.

□ 1515

The bill would provide NOAA and the Coast Guard with much-needed tools to fight foreign illegal fishing. It would also implement the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU fishing, a treaty ratified by the Senate that would set international standards for denying port entry and services to vessels that have engaged in illegal fishing.

I am proud to note that H.R. 774 is a truly bipartisan effort, a result of the hard work of both Democratic and Republican staff, the cosponsorships of both Republican and Democratic Members, and the leadership of the Natural Resources Committee, as well as the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

I want to thank Matt Strickler and Jean Flemma, the Natural Resources Committee staff, for their tireless work to move this forward.

I would also like to acknowledge the International Conservation Caucus Foundation, the Gulf Coast Leadership Conference, and the countless recreational and commercial fishing businesses across the country for their full-fledged support of this bill.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 774, to ensure that the U.S. remains a leader in ensuring the economic security of our Nation and our allies.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to urge my colleagues to support H.R. 774, the Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015. H.R. 774 would strengthen enforcement mechanisms to stop IUU fishing, which threatens the economic and social infrastructure of our fishing communities and industry, as well as the security of the United States and our allies.

While it is difficult to fully track IUU fishing, it is estimated to have a global value of \$10 billion to \$23.5 billion, representing between 11 million and 26 million tons of fish. Not only does this kind of fishing harm marine ecosystems and deplete fish stocks around the world, it also causes significant economic harm to U.S. fishermen. For example, the \$700 million worth of king crab harvested illegally from Russian waters alone undercuts the prices Alaskan king crab fishermen get for their catch, hurting the bottom line of a fishery that has become a model for sustainable harvest. IUU fishing in Pacific Ocean waters accounts for approximately 33 percent of total catch from those fisheries. IUU fishing on highly migratory stocks like tuna leaves fewer fish in the water for U.S. fishermen who play by the rules, and frustrates our efforts to manage far-ranging stocks responsibly. If stocks fail to recover, additional restrictions may be placed on U.S. fishermen, forcing economic losses and undermining confidence in the fairness of the management system.

In addition to depressing job opportunities and income in the U.S. fishing industry, IUU

fishing is also a matter of national and regional security for the U.S. and our allies. IUU fishing is closely associated with various trafficking activities that are highly likely to operate from the same foreign vessels that engage in IUU fishing activities. A 2011 report issued by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime documented the link between illegal fishing and transnational organized crime including human trafficking, drug smuggling, gun running, terrorism, and even slave labor. Especially given that 91 percent of seafood consumed in the United States is imported, it is critical to ensure that the purchases of unsuspecting Americans are not supporting these activities.

We often view security issues through the traditional prism of hard power, but we need to shift that paradigm, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region. IUU fishing has become a significant issue that has caused conflicts between countries and threatens regional stability such as that in the Asia-Pacific region. IUU fishing is a threat to regional security, and we must take steps to address the matter. Banyan Analytics released a report in 2014 that talks about security in the Pacific Island nations, and IUU fishing or food security was a major issue for this region. As we rebalance to the Asia-Pacific region, we cannot ignore these types of issues.

Just as importantly, the problem of IUU fishing is not unique to the Western Pacific. Many American communities, from Alaska and the Pacific Northwest to the Gulf Coast and up and down the Atlantic seaboard, face similar challenges that threaten local economies as well as our national food security.

The United States has become a world leader in sustainable management of marine fisheries, in great part due to the Magnuson-Stevens Act. In other parts of the world, however, poor fisheries management is more common, and stocks are overharvested—the direct result of IUU fishing.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) recently reported that no federally-managed fisheries are subject to overfishing. However, that is not the case for many stocks managed by other nations, as well as those managed by several countries through regional fishery management organizations (RFMOs). Over seventy percent of major global marine fish stocks are fully exploited, overexploited, depleted, or recovering from depletion, driven in part by the persistence of IUU fishing.

Our allies and partners have already taken the lead on this issue. The EU Fisheries Council has implemented trade restrictions on countries who do not cooperate in combating IUU fishing. Our partners like Australia, Palau, and Papua New Guinea have all taken action to curb IUU fishing in their own EEZs. We cannot continue to lead from behind on IUU fishing enforcement. The United States must take our leadership role in this important national security matter seriously.

I commend the work of the Presidential Task Force on IUU Fishing and Seafood Fraud, which is the culmination and continuation of the many years of effort on the part of leaders and stakeholders in our fishing communities, in the seafood sector, and in our conservation community. However, we must

continue to do more. Moreover, H.R. 774 includes provisions that were specifically requested by the Task Force that would enhance the United States' ability to combat IUU fishing.

H.R. 774 is the product of extensive negotiations between Democratic and Republican staff in the last Congress, and I commend the Natural Resources Committee staff, particularly Matt Strickler and former staff Jean Flemma, for their work in moving this legislation forward. It is also supported by a broad coalition that includes the U.S. State Department, fishing industry interests, and conservation groups. I also thank Mr. YOUNG of Alaska and his staff for working with us on this legislation, and for his continued leadership on an issue that impacts many of his Alaska constituents.

I am proud to note that H.R. 774 was introduced with—and quickly gained—strong bipartisan support, which included Mr. DON YOUNG of Alaska; Mr. PETER DEFazio, Ranking Member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee; Mr. ROB WITTMAN, Chair of the Subcommittee on Readiness in the Armed Services Committee; Mr. DUNCAN HUNTER and Mr. JOHN GARAMENDI, respectively Chair and Ranking Member of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee of the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee; Mr. ED ROYCE, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee; and Mr. MICHAEL MCCAUL, Chair of the Homeland Security Committee.

I also acknowledge and thank the leadership of Chairman ROB BISHOP and Ranking Member RAÚL GRIJALVA of the Natural Resources Committee. H.R. 774 passed the Natural Resources Committee by unanimous consent on April 30, 2015.

I would also like to thank the International Conservation Caucus Foundation, the Gulf Coast Leadership Conference, and the countless recreational and commercial fishing businesses across the country for their full-fledged support of this bill.

It will continue to take a collective effort to prevent IUU fishing, from stakeholders, the White House, and Congress, so I urge my colleagues to vote yes on H.R. 774, so that the U.S. remains a leader in ensuring the economic security of our nation and our allies.

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, so I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from American Samoa (Mrs. RADEWAGEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 774, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING COMMISSION ACT OF 2015

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 1831) to establish the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1831

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Evidence-Based Policymaking Commission Act of 2015”.

#### SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT.

There is established in the executive branch a commission to be known as the “Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking” (in this Act referred to as the “Commission”).

#### SEC. 3. MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Commission shall be comprised of 15 members as follows:

(1) Three shall be appointed by the President, of whom—

(A) one shall be an academic researcher, data expert, or have experience in administering programs;

(B) one shall have expertise in database management, confidentiality, and privacy matters; and

(C) one shall be the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (or the Director's designee).

(2) Three shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, of whom—

(A) two shall be academic researchers, data experts, or have experience in administering programs; and

(B) one shall have expertise in database management, confidentiality, and privacy matters.

(3) Three shall be appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, of whom—

(A) two shall be academic researchers, data experts, or have experience in administering programs; and

(B) one shall have expertise in database management, confidentiality, and privacy matters.

(4) Three shall be appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate, of whom—

(A) two shall be academic researchers, data experts, or have experience in administering programs; and

(B) one shall have expertise in database management, confidentiality, and privacy matters.

(5) Three shall be appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate, of whom—

(A) two shall be academic researchers, data experts, or have experience in administering programs; and

(B) one shall have expertise in database management, confidentiality, and privacy matters.

(b) EXPERTISE.—In making appointments under this section, consideration should be given to individuals with expertise in economics, statistics, program evaluation, data security, confidentiality, or database management.

(c) CHAIRPERSON AND CO-CHAIRPERSON.—The President shall select the chairperson of the Commission and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall select the co-chairperson.

(d) TIMING OF APPOINTMENTS.—Appointments to the Commission shall be made not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(e) TERMS; VACANCIES.—Each member shall be appointed for the duration of the Commission. Any vacancy in the Commission shall not affect its powers, and shall be filled in

the manner in which the original appointment was made.

(f) COMPENSATION.—Members of the Commission shall serve without pay.

(g) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member of the Commission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from their homes or regular places of business in the performance of services for the Commission.

#### SEC. 4. DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION.

(a) STUDY OF DATA.—The Commission shall conduct a comprehensive study of the data inventory, data infrastructure, and statistical protocols related to Federal policymaking and the agencies responsible for maintaining that data to—

(1) determine the optimal arrangement for which administrative data on Federal programs and tax expenditures, survey data, and related statistical data series may be integrated and made available to facilitate program evaluation, continuous improvement, policy-relevant research, and cost-benefit analyses by qualified researchers and institutions;

(2) make recommendations on how data infrastructure and statistical protocols should be modified to best fulfill the objectives identified in paragraph (1); and

(3) make recommendations on how best to incorporate outcomes measurement, institutionalize randomized controlled trials, and rigorous impact analysis into program design.

(b) CLEARINGHOUSE.—In undertaking the study required by subsection (a), the Commission shall consider whether a clearinghouse for program and survey data should be established and how to create such a clearinghouse. The Commission shall evaluate—

(1) what administrative data and survey data are relevant for program evaluation and Federal policy-making and should be included in a potential clearinghouse;

(2) which survey data the administrative data identified in paragraph (1) may be linked to, in addition to linkages across administrative data series;

(3) what are the legal and administrative barriers to including or linking these data series;

(4) what data-sharing infrastructure should be used to facilitate data merging and access for research purposes;

(5) how a clearinghouse could be self-funded;

(6) which types of researchers, officials, and institutions should have access to data and what their qualifications should be;

(7) what limitations should be placed on the use of data provided;

(8) how to protect information and ensure individual privacy and confidentiality;

(9) how data and results of research can be used to inform program administrators and policymakers to improve program design; and

(10) what incentives may facilitate inter-agency sharing of information to improve programmatic effectiveness and enhance data accuracy and comprehensiveness.

(c) REPORT.—Upon the affirmative vote of at least three-quarters of the members of the Commission, the Commission shall submit to the President and Congress a detailed statement of its findings and conclusions as a result of the activities required by subsections (a) and (b), together with its recommendations for such legislation or administrative actions as the Commission considers appropriate in light of the results of the study.

(d) DEADLINE.—The report under subsection (c) shall be submitted not later than